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WEEKLY EDITION.

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Mr. Hoar Is Out of Tune.

Hon. George F. Hoar, the senior Senator from Massachusetts, has no more sincere admirer and well-wisher than The Post. We believe him to be an honest and conscientious man, a patriotic citizen, and a wise law-giver. Moreover, he is an accomplished scholar and an earnest and painstaking publicist. It would be impossible for us to question the genuineness of his motives, or to doubt the high and noble purpose of any enterprise of which he was the author. It remains a fact, however, that Mr. Hoar is only human after all. He is capable of errors and misapprehensions, and we need no better illustration of this truth than his present attitude with reference to the Philippines.

Mr. Hoar is not only mistaken, he is inconsistent also, for while he is now denouncing our policy of expansion in the Philippines, he is on record as having voted for the acquisition of the Hawaiian group. If the former be open to blame, the latter was wicked and excusable. The Philippines have come to us without our seeking, as the logical result of a successful war. We took Hawaii without the smallest justification in morals. The plea that we had been asked to annex the Sandwich Islands will not bear serious examination. We were asked by a handful of white men who had seized the government. The great masses of the people were as averse to our occupation as are the Filipinos themselves. A philosopher like Mr. Hoar should not take refuge in forms and technicalities. He knows as well as we do that the Hawaiians would have voted, twenty to one, in favor of retaining their autonomy, and he sanctioned their seizure for the reason that it amounted to the full conviction of this fact. Events made it our duty to assume the responsibility for law and order and civilization in the Philippines. Our annexation of Hawaii was mere caprice, without the shadow of necessity or obligation to defend it. How can Mr. Hoar champion the indulgence of a caprice and in the same breath exhort the performance of a duty?

We do not apprehend that Mr. Hoar is losing touch with his own constituents. All indications point the other way. But it is safe to say that he is a jarring and discordant note in the symphony of American public sentiment at this time. One cannot conceive a more pathetic spectacle than that of a benevolent and admirable old gentleman preaching fanaticism to a fighting nation, and withal, a feeble King Canute, screaming and gesticulating at the senseless tide, was hardly more sorrowful to look at.

America and The Hague Conference.

A Western contemporary expresses surprise and regret that so little interest is shown by the people of the United States in "the approaching international peace conference." It is not, properly speaking, a "peace" conference. The czar, in his invitation to the powers, did not intimate that he believed it possible or desirable to abolish war by abolishing armies and navies and relegating fighting men to the industries of peace. It is to be a "disarmament" conference in a limited and peculiar sense. Not that the powers are to consider the practicability of reducing, at once, their military establishments, but that they are to inquire and determine whether they cannot get along without increasing the present burdens. It may be the hope of the Russian ruler that a frank interchange of views will bring about such conditions as will eventually lead to a beginning of actual disarmament—a general reduction of standing armies. But there has been no practical development in Russia or in any other European country since the inauguration of the movement for The Hague conference calculated to encourage a belief that it is taken very seriously anywhere.

It was only as a matter of formal courtesy that the invitation was sent to the United States. We have never had a military establishment which the Russian or the German Emperor would regard as a standing army. And if the increase recently authorized by Congress should be permanent, our army would be insignificant in numbers as compared with European armies. If the czar could afford a perfect guarantee against any encroachment by a foreign power, he would not deem it expedient to expend with any considerable part of his forces. He needs, and his successors for many generations will need, for home duty and for the carrying out of Russia's plans in the Orient, an army compared with which ours is as a regiment to a corps.

But the czar's proposition has not failed to attract attention in this country. We shall be represented at The Hague conference and shall occupy a unique position as the only power that has attained to greatness without a large standing army. Our delegate can point to years of magnificent progress, of growth and development unexampled in the history of the world, when we had but 25,000 men under arms. That was the fighting strength which led the march of civilization across the continent, often facing a wily, treacherous, savage foe. As an object lesson to Russia, France, Germany, Austria, and Italy our attendance at The Hague conference cannot teach us any lesson. We have no need that we can throw off at present. And we need no admission from the armed camps of Europe to induce us to keep our military establishment at the lowest figure consistent with safety and honor.

Our Western contemporary must have overlooked one manifestation of interest in the czar's movement, to wit, the re-

cent meeting in Philadelphia, "in the interest of international peace and a permanent tribunal of arbitration." One of the resolutions adopted at this meeting expresses the hope that our delegate at The Hague "will advocate the establishment of a permanent international tribunal of arbitration whose relations to the nations of the world would be similar to those of the United States Supreme Court to the States of the American Union."

Ex-Senator Edmunds is chairman of the executive committee appointed by this gathering. It is well to have a great constitutional lawyer in that position, for no other would dare attempt an explanation of that resolution. How an international tribunal of arbitration could be related to the nations of the world as our Supreme Court is to the States of this Union is a question that we do not believe our Supreme Court could answer. When the nations shall have formed a federation under a written constitution, that scheme may be practicable, but it cannot be inaugurated without such preparation. And not even the good cause of peace can be greatly helped by passing absurd resolutions, however imposing the array of names behind such fulminations.

Mr. Ingalls on the Senate.

In the New York Journal of last Sunday appears an article from the gifted pen of Hon. John J. Ingalls, advocating the election of Senators by the direct vote of the people, and offering a number of very stirring arguments in favor of his proposition. It goes without saying, of course, that any hypothesis set up by Mr. Ingalls is invested with all the charm that a suave and opulent rhetoric can confer upon it. In our opinion he is easily the most brilliant and forceful writer in this country to-day. But we cannot agree with Mr. Ingalls in the opinion that by transferring the election of Senators from the Legislatures to the people we shall obtain better results as regards the personnel of the upper house of Congress. It is an attractive theory that the masses can be trusted to act with unselfish integrity, whereas the Legislatures, their own creation, are open to corrupt and evil influences. It seems to us, however, that a dishonest Legislature means simply a dishonest constituency.

What we chiefly need, according to our view of the matter, are suffrage laws under which the ignorant and the thrifless cannot vote and the corruptible cannot trade upon their franchise. Legislatures are no better and no worse than the people who make them. If, as Mr. Ingalls alleges, it be true that money buys seats in the United States Senate, we reply that the same money which buys the local law-maker will buy his constituents. It may take a little more. The area of venality will have to be expanded. But the result will be the same, with the difference that we shall have more scandals in politics. We fail to see how this particular disease is to be cured by widening the field of activity. Under the existing system we can at least locate the seat of the evil and identify the agencies of its propagation. Under the plan proposed by Mr. Ingalls—with bribery and corruption flourishing in every city slum and rural primary—we should have the same abominable consequences without the satisfaction of being able to classify the causes.

Upon the whole, we can see no hope of purifying the machinery by which United States Senators are turned out, unless we begin at the beginning. Give us a pure ballot-box, assure us of intelligent and responsible voters, and it will make very little difference whether Senators are chosen by the people themselves or by their genuine representatives.

An Impossible Task.

Yesterday at 12 m. Samuel H. Ashbridge was formally inducted into the office of Mayor of Philadelphia, to which he had been elected by the solid vote of both factions of the Republican Party, and with the approval of some thousands of his Democratic fellow-citizens, for they found it convenient to be absent from the polls. This popular official was promoted from Coroner to Mayor at a single step, or, rather, running jump, an unusual occurrence, for the persons to whom a Coroner's attention is chiefly directed are incapacitated for political activity or influence before he takes up his cases. His election by an unprecedented majority to the United States magistracy of the third city in the United States and the first in manufacture and in practical benevolence, was a compliment paid to worth. Few officials have ever been more loudly called to office than Mayor Ashbridge. How will it be with his popularity a year hence? That is a question that he has doubtless asked himself many times, and to which no answer can be made until time and events furnish it.

Mayor Ashbridge is expected to do impossible things. The first of these is to satisfy the desires of both of the fiery fighting factions. This would exceed the capacity of the wisest, the most tactful, and most respected man on earth. To find favor with one faction would be to incur the animosity of the other. To disregard both and do just what seems right would raise up a swarm of tormentors. The new Mayor is expected to inaugurate an era of reform, to banish rings and ringleaders, and to abolish fraud and corruption. This will probably not be accomplished, for the Council will not stand in the way of the Mayor's line of precedents. Still, his honest heart, if really determined to fulfill the hopes centered on him, can accumulate a large stock of experience, and can find consolation for failure in the consciousness of having done his best.

Those persons who are so given to picturing the downtrodden negro of the South might pick up an occasional redeeming feature if they were so disposed. For instance, The Post finds in the news columns of the Havestide (Ky.) the following illustration of the fact that the colored brother doesn't always get the worst of it:

"The justice of the first day of Circuit Court was the trial of a negro on a charge of crying. Each had a separate trial before the same jury, and there was only one witness for the prosecution, as they were all engaged in the same game. Amos Bunting was fined \$25 and cost; J. W. Hogan obtained a hung jury, while Peter Banks, colored, was acquitted."

Haswell's justice on its fine sense of discernment. Peter Banks, colored, is not only vindicated, but he has the satisfaction of knowing that Amos Bunting has been punished, and that George Washington Hogan is under a cloud because of their invasion of the favorite game of the persecuted black man. In the future Peter Banks will take up his "bones" with a feeling that the colored brother has a few rights the white man is bound to respect.

At any rate, Gen. Egan has managed to escape all the inconveniences which accompany war heroism.

It appears that Mr. Coen made a most liberal contribution to the appetite of the Cuban Assembly.

Ex-Congressman Emloe, who retired to private life via the journalistic graveyard, has prepared a democratic card to the House of Representatives, but he asks the candidate's favorite brand of ink.

The height of political cruelty is reached by the Omaha World-Herald when it dis-

up and publishes the old letters of Hon. J. Sterling Morton, in which he advocated fusion between the Democrats and the Populists.

When Mr. McKisson retired from that effort to "mark Hanna" he had the hard play "There'll Come a Time Some Day," and yesterday was the time referred to by the young man.

Mr. Hoar carefully avoids all reference to the policy by which his ancestors acquired the territory upon which they settled.

It is confidently believed that the Cuban will eventually simmer down and pocket the \$500,000 mail.

Col. Gustav Augerstein, the general field officer of the National Constitutional Cromwellian League, should lose no time in rigging up the Coia Harvey department of the Miles boom.

Admiral Kautz will not come up to the expectation of the highly feathered soldiers until he begins to complain of the quality of the beef.

An Atlanta literary association has requested Joe Jefferson to play one night for its benefit. Association is a great developer of nerve.

A Philadelphia man has been sued for \$500 for squeezing a girl's hand. It may be hard work to convince an intelligent jury that there is \$500 worth of squeeze in a Philadelphia girl's hand.

Quite a number of politicians show a disposition to "hit" on Carter Harrison's political faith.

Dick Croker is to be the star witness in "Tommy's" police investigation. Tom proposes to give a great show.

None of the newspapers has gone so far as to refer to the Vanderbilt-Fair wedding as "a quiet affair."

If the National Cromwellian League has any funds in its treasury it should have them invested in lithographs of its Presidential candidate.

The community that pays Sam Jones good money for injuring its feelings is entitled to no sympathy.

A Michigan man undertook to decorate the 1st of April with a hanging joke which he thought would be a good thing to the faulty construction of the Legislature, their own creation, are open to corrupt and evil influences. It seems to us, however, that a dishonest Legislature means simply a dishonest constituency.

What we chiefly need, according to our view of the matter, are suffrage laws under which the ignorant and the thrifless cannot vote and the corruptible cannot trade upon their franchise. Legislatures are no better and no worse than the people who make them. If, as Mr. Ingalls alleges, it be true that money buys seats in the United States Senate, we reply that the same money which buys the local law-maker will buy his constituents. It may take a little more. The area of venality will have to be expanded. But the result will be the same, with the difference that we shall have more scandals in politics. We fail to see how this particular disease is to be cured by widening the field of activity. Under the existing system we can at least locate the seat of the evil and identify the agencies of its propagation. Under the plan proposed by Mr. Ingalls—with bribery and corruption flourishing in every city slum and rural primary—we should have the same abominable consequences without the satisfaction of being able to classify the causes.

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FRESH GOSSIP OF FOREIGN CAPITALS.

Queen Wilhelmina's action in placing at the disposal of the forthcoming Peace Conference at The Hague, her palace, known as the Huis ten Bosch, which in English means "the house in the woods," constitutes a happy augury for this congress, which is expected to exercise such an extraordinary degree of influence upon the future civilized world. It is impossible to imagine a spot more calculated to promote sentiments of peace and harmony than this sylvan retreat of the rulers of the Netherlands.

It is just a pleasant drive from The Hague, among a fine, wide avenue known as the "Veerhoofd," lined with rows of great trees and beautiful mansions. The grounds are well kept, and the atmosphere is a beautiful park, with herds of deer and hundreds of gay-plumaged birds—a park that far and away surpasses the home park at Windsor, in magnificent timber, dense undergrowth, winding lakes and streams, crossed by rustic bridges, and views over hill and dale, calculated to entrance an artist and all admirers of nature.

Internally, the palace is of an unpretentious character, but within it is characterized by an extraordinary degree of luxury. The feature of the interior is the celebrated German hall, where the sessions of the Peace Conference are to be held. It was built by the grandmother of that Prince of Orange who afterward became King William III of England, the wife of his husband, Prince Frederick Henry of Orange. The walls are entirely covered with pictures descriptive of events of that Prince's life, painted by pupils of Rubens, while the ceiling is painted in scenes by a human evildoer, and partly by Jordans. The hall in question is octagonal in shape, and the lofty roof is domed. In the center hall the walls are covered with tapestry of Chinese undergrowth, winding lakes and streams, crossed by rustic bridges, and views over hill and dale, calculated to entrance an artist and all admirers of nature.

The chandeliers in the palace are all of Dresden and Sevres porcelain, or else of exquisite Venetian glass.

The Baron de Stern, the London multi-millionaire, who has just been pronounced insane, and whose peculiar form of insanity lies in his firm presentation that he is the Prince of Wales, and among other things, that he is the British heir apparent. Indeed, the insanity specialists do not hesitate to declare that the lunacy of the Baron has been largely developed by the fact that he is being so frequently mistaken for strangers by the Prince of Wales and accorded the homage and tokens of respect due to the latter.

The Baron de Stern is a brother of Lord Wardsworth, and likewise of Lady Sherborne and of Lady Salomons, invariably of late has insisted in being addressed as "Sir" and as "Royal Highness," and among other things, that he is the British heir apparent. Indeed, the insanity specialists do not hesitate to declare that the lunacy of the Baron has been largely developed by the fact that he is being so frequently mistaken for strangers by the Prince of Wales and accorded the homage and tokens of respect due to the latter.

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THE BARON DE STERN.

NOT THE WOMAN LEGISLATORS.

A Story from Colorado that Was Not Founded on Fact.

Editor Post: In the Post of March 22, Mr. L. P. Smith, of the Colorado Press, makes a statement in regard to Colorado legislators so grossly insulting, and so contrary to the facts, that some effort has been made to prove the falsity of his charges.

After saying that the good people of Colorado persistently advocate the purifying influences of women voting in the State, Mr. Smith relates how he had planned to introduce a bill to amend the constitution to give women the right to vote, and how he had been defeated by the Legislature.

It is a letter to me, from Mrs. Harriet G. Wright, a member of the Colorado House of Representatives, who says that "Mr. Smith's false and misleading statement and vile slander" was read by the prominent members of the House, including the Speaker, with the greatest surprise, and the members from Cripple Creek were justly indignant.

Mr. Wright, Mrs. Lee, and Dr. Mary E. Barry, the three women members of the Legislature, all favored and voted for the bill referred to; therefore, they could have no object in presiding at a supper to the support of a bill which they had introduced and which they had voted for.

The truth is, the hostesses at the supper were hired by Mrs. Smith, who was the wife of a member of the Legislature, and they are fully explained in a letter from Hon. William G. Smith, Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, which accompanied Mrs. Wright's letter.

The expressions of this man, which, considered with the facts in the case, so thoroughly explain the matter, that no further comment is necessary. He evidently, and justly, does not approve of woman legislators indulging in the dishonorable tricks of the traditional politician, and he is right to carry his restrictions no further. The following is Mr. Smith's letter:

State of Colorado, House of Representatives.
Denver, Col., March 27, 1899.

Dear Sir: I have just received a clipping from your paper, under date of March 22, indicating that the women members of the House of Representatives of Colorado have been invited to a supper to the support of a certain measure, by involving a couple of the members from registering their vote on the subject of woman suffrage.

The women who were invited to the supper, and who were not connected with the House by the underwriting of human evildoer, and are all of the highest character and standing. Yours truly,

WILLIAM G. SMITH, Speaker.

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THE BARON DE STERN.

DEMAND ROBERTS' EXPULSION.

Evangelical Churches of Utah War Against the Polygamist Congressman-elect.

New York, April 3.—The Rev. Dr. Thomas C. Liff, of Salt Lake City, addressed the Methodist preachers' weekly meeting, in this city to-day, on "The Present Situation in Utah." Dr. Liff has been the Superintendent of the Methodist Mission in Utah for twenty-five years. He is making his present trip as the Chairman of a committee representing the evangelical churches of Utah to present the admission to the United States House of Representatives of Brigham H. Roberts. In the course of his address Dr. Liff said:

"Brigham H. Roberts is permitted to sit in Congress, it will be interpreted in every Mormon hamlet as the fulfillment of Brigham Young's prophecy, and also as nationalizing polygamy. The Mormons will redouble their energies. Already they may be said to hold the balance of power in Idaho and Wyoming, and they are very strong in Nevada, Arizona, and in Southwest Colorado. The other day the wife of a Senator from a State adjoining Utah, herself a Methodist, was asked to use her influence on behalf of our crusade. She replied that she could not do anything about that matter. This shows the Mormon influence in politics."

"We ask that Congress shall expel Roberts. We at first petitioned that he be not received, but after conferring with Senator Edmunds and other friends, we think that the proper procedure is to expel him."

SENATOR HANNA ENTERS DENIAL.

Declares He Never Had Anything to Do with Any Army Contract.

In a note to the Associated Press, from Thomasville, Ga., Senator Mark Hanna says:

"I see in the newspaper reports that one Maj. Lee has attempted to drag my name into the case by questions which conveyed the impression that I was connected at some conference where beef contracts were discussed. I wish to say that I never had anything to do with any army contract, nor ever exchanged a word with any official of the War Department on that subject. I make this statement in order that it may have the same publicity as was given to the contemptible insinuations of this man Lee."

The Beef Inquiry Board had no witnesses before it yesterday. Maj. Lee, who represents Maj. Gen. Miles, presented an additional list of witnesses for the Board to summon, and the case was considered in executive session. The examination of witnesses will be resumed to-day. Among those who are ready to testify is Maj. Lee, who first made the charge that the refrigerator was not economically treated. Gen. Miles also will be given an opportunity to reappear. The Board is expected to announce its decision at the earliest possible moment, and it is believed they will be able to finish with the testimony this week.

CANADA WITHOUT DEFENSES.

Gen. Hutton Reports that Her Military Force Is Not an Army.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 3.—A special from Quebec says:

"It is now publicly admitted that the Dominion of Canada is without defenses and has no army worthy of the name. This statement was made upon the authority of the head of the supreme army, the General who commands it, Gen. Evelyn Wood, and Kitchener."

"He has been newly-appointed to the command of the Canadian forces, and his first official report upon the condition of the supposed army has created more than a mild sensation in military, civil and political circles in Canada. The General declines to speak of the force at all, and in fact, he declares that it is not an army."

RUDYARD KIPING'S THANKS.

Graciously Acknowledges Compliments Shown Him During His Illness.

New York, April 3.—The following letter of thanks has been written by Rudyard Kipling:

"Hotel Grenville, Easter Day, 1899.
"Dear Sir: Will you allow me, through your columns, to attempt some acknowledgment of the wonderful sympathy, affection, and kindness shown toward me during my recent illness, as well as the unfailing courtesy that controlled its expression? I am anxious to answer your letters in detail, so I must take this means of thanking, as humbly as sincerely, the countless people of goodwill throughout the world who have put me under a debt which can never hope to repay. Faithfully yours,

"RUDYARD KIPING."

Mr. Kipling got out of bed yesterday for the first time since his illness. He is well on the way toward complete recovery.

OBJECTS TO PERSONAL TAXES.

William Waldorf Astor Declares He Is a Citizen, Not a Non-Resident.

New York, April 3.—William Waldorf Astor, who recently arrived from England, accompanied by his counsel, Charles Peabody, Jr., appeared before the Tax Commissioners to-day and filed an application for a writ of habeas corpus, on the ground that he is a non-resident. Mr. Astor is proprietor of the Pall Mall Gazette, in London.

President Feltner, of the Tax Board, asked Mr. Astor if he had given up his citizenship. Mr. Astor answered that he had not, but he declared that he is a non-resident.

President Feltner said that the matter would have to be referred to the full board.

Unskilled Artisans.

From the Detroit Free Press.

Tim Murphy tells about a time when he ran across an old colored aunty on a hot day, sitting under an awning and languidly fanning herself with her gingham apron.

"Awfully hot, isn't it, Mammy?" sympathetically ventured Tim.

"Deed it is, child," replied the poor old soul. "I didn't know it was right for to be so hot this way. I tell you, fo' de year ago, when the Lawd made the weather, we didn't hab no steevin' days, 'deed we didn't; but now dese dey b'gity men up at dis yer weather office, dey does sen us anything dey please; an' dey aint skillful, chile, dey aint skillful."

Philadelphia's Growing Commerce.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The receipts of the Philadelphia custom house for the month of March reached more than \$2,000,000 for the first time. This is an increase of about three-quarters of a million over the corresponding month of 1898. It is probable that the first year will show something like \$20,000,000 to the credit of this port.

We are already beginning to reap the fruits of enterprise. We have virtually made a new harbor, have a great wharves, have broadened Delaware avenue, and have provided every facility for ocean commerce. The one thing that is now needed is a deep-water channel to the sea.

Revengeful Comment.

From the Chicago Record.